



The Lincoln School

Lincletter

Wednesday

April 15, 2009

CO-PRESIDENTS' NOTE

One final reminder that tomorrow, April 16th is Author-fest. Twenty local authors will be visiting the elementary schools during the day and will be at Town Hall from 3:00 – 5:00 pm for a book sale and signing. We had a great turnout at our LSPA meeting last week and a special thank you to Paul DeBenedictis and his multi-age class for their demonstration of the ActivBoard (interactive white board) that was donated by the LSPA earlier in the year. It was great to see the technology being put to good use thanks to the generous support of everyone who contributed to the Direct Appeal. Lastly, a big thank you to Kristen Ward for her stunning flower arrangements at the school entrance...a welcome sign of spring. We hope you all have a relaxing week off and enjoy time with your families over the April vacation next week.

—Jenny Splaine and Linda McDonough

CALENDAR

April 16th

3:00-5:00 Author-fest Town Hall

April 20th-24th

No School – April Vacation Week

Friday, May 1st

May Day celebration

Sat., May 9th:

Lincoln School clean-up day, 9-12 noon

SAVE THE DATE! Mark Saturday, May 9, from 9 a.m. to Noon and join the Building & Grounds Committee for a Spring Clean-up of the Lincoln School grounds. We'll be picking up trash, raking, spreading mulch, trimming bushes and sweeping winter sand from the sidewalks to help keep our school as beautiful and safe as it can be. Kids are absolutely welcome. Bring your work gloves, shovels, rakes, gardening tools, push brooms and wheelbarrows. For information contact Rachel or Keith Whitehouse at 781-721-0153 or racheljwhitehouse@hotmail.com.

MENTOR NIGHT SUCCESS

Congratulations to the 125 students from 4th and 5th grades who spent time working

with mentors to prepare a great evening of sharing on Thursday, April 2nd. We would like to thank all the parents who helped make this happen...whether you were a Mentor yourself or acted as a coordinator for the group or shuttled kids to their appointments with their mentors or helped put together their presentations! The success of the program was due to the efforts of our great Mentor committee...big thanks to Maura Christopher, Elaine Costales, Kate Hutteman, Jeanette Kolodziej, Susan McPhee and Lynn Phillips!

Audrey Loria & Jayne Micciche, Mentor Committee Co-Chairs

HEALTH OFFICE REMINDER

To all 5th grade parents:

First reminder: Please check your child's backpack and return the enclosed permission slip for the Human Growth and Development program. There is an opportunity for parents to preview the films before the students. You may pass the form to the teacher, or health office.

Second reminder: If you haven't done so already, please pass in a copy of an updated physical exam for your 5th grader. It must be dated June 1, 2008-June 1, 2009 for entry into McCall. I sent reminder notes to those who need to update their records.

Playground safety Tip:

With the nice weather arriving, we have noticed many students wearing flip-flops/sandals/crocs. These types of footwear cause many more playground injuries. Although it is tempting to wear them, I encourage you to send your child in sneakers for outdoor recess to eliminate some preventable accidents.

Thanks for your cooperation.

—Lynn Vozzella, RN

NOTE FROM THE LUNCHROOM

Please make sure that your child leaves the house with a lunch or a lunch-ticket in the morning. If your child owes a ticket already, he/she needs to bring lunch from home until the ticket is repaid.

Thank you!

—Rose Novak

AUTHORFEST - APRIL 16

The 16th annual Authorfest will be Thursday, April 16th. Twenty authors and illustrators will visit each Winchester public school plus St. Mary's. In addition, the Winchester Public Library will host author Jamie Spencer who will present a program for preschool children at 9:45 am. Founded by school librarians and volunteers more than a decade ago, Authorfest is designed to strengthen children's love of reading and help improve their writing skills. Presenters visit each grade level, talking about how they write or illustrate a book plus the skills needed to get published. Personal contact with a published author often sparks student enthusiasm and classroom achievement in unexpected ways. Some of the 20 authors visiting Winchester this year are Brian Lies, Dan Mahoney, Jeff Nathan, Susan Lubner Allen Kurzweil, and Jackie Davies. Classroom visits aren't open to the public but everyone is welcome at the town wide book sale and signing at **Town Hall from 3:00pm – 5:00pm** (great gift ideas!!). Book sale profits will bring more authors and illustrators to Winchester next year. Book Ends website also features a link to purchase Authorfest books, www.bookendswinchester.com. Authorfest is run by volunteers and funded by a generous grant from WFEE; each school's parent association; the EnKa Society plus a grant from the Winchester Arts Council. Authorfest is also strongly supported by Book Ends. For more info contact Ceci Cordeiro at cecicordeiro@comcast.net or 781-729-3192. Interested in volunteering? please contact Anita Colasante at anitacola@yahoo.com or 781-775-6500.

YOUTH RISK BEHAVIOR SURVEY COMMITTEE MEETING

The Youth Risk Behavior Survey is scheduled to be administered to grades 6-12 next fall. This survey is administered every two years. The data provided by the results of the surveys, influence system-wide program initiatives, curriculum development, enrichment assemblies, etc. The last time the survey was administered

(07-08), concerns were expressed with regard to the survey and the communication process that was followed. A committee has been formed to address these concerns. The first meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 15th. The location will be at McCall Middle School at 1:45 in the Food and Nutrition room. All are welcomed to attend.

WINCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS SUMMER PROGRAM 2009 PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN

Winchester will be conducting a preschool and incoming kindergarten summer program. This program will take place at the Lincoln Elementary School from July 6 through August 14. The sessions will be for 6 weeks, 9:00-12:00 Monday-Friday. The program will be staffed based on level of interest but at a minimum will have a teacher and teaching assistant. Spaces will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. Parents must commit to two, four, or six weeks of participation. We will not be able to accommodate students on less than a two-week basis, five days per week. Please complete the attached form to indicate which session(s) your child will be attending and return. In order to effectively plan the program and hire staff we need confirmation from you by May 22, 2009 indicating your child's participation. However, an earlier response is always appreciated!

COMMUNITY NEWS:

WINCHESTER FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE (WFEE) NEWS:

Whether you loved prom, hated it, or didn't go, you won't want to miss **WFEE's Prom 'n Aid**. The date is **May 30th**, the evening will include dancing, dinner, a live auction and a few surprises. **Buy your tickets by May 1st** and be entered to win a Limo ride to the Prom! Order your tickets at www.wfee.org or pick them up at Book Ends, \$350 per couple/ \$175 stag. WFEE, the Winchester Foundation for Educational Excellence, funds programs and teacher training at all Winchester public schools. Additional WFEE system wide initiatives include the purchase of technology such as teacher lap top computers, interactive whiteboards and computer software. Questions? info@wfee.org or 781 756-8020.

PARENT TO PARENT PRESENTS: "RAISING RESILIENT CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS"

Dr. Robert Brooks will describe factors that help children and adolescents to deal more

effectively with stress and pressure and become more resilient. Please join us on Wednesday, May 13th, 7:30 – 9:00, in the McCall Middle School auditorium.

Dr. Brooks is a clinical psychologist who lectures nationally and internationally on topics related to resilience, motivation, and self-esteem. He is on the faculty of Harvard Medical School, and maintains a private practice in the Boston area. He is the author of more than 10 books for parents and teachers, including *The Self-Esteem Teacher*, *Raising Resilient Children*, and *Raising a Self-Disciplined Child*. Dr. Brooks has appeared on local and national television, and has been a consultant to Sesame Street Parents Magazine. For more information about Dr. Brooks, go to www.drrobertbrooks.com.

Parent to Parent thanks the EnKa Society for their financial support. Visit us at www.parenttoparentwinchester.org.

FREE HOME ENERGY SAVING SEMINAR COMING TO TOWN HALL

Those in Winchester who are interested in reducing their home energy use and costs through cheap, do-it-yourself solutions, and in learning about ways to finance energy and heating improvements, can attend a free seminar, *Home Energy Savings*, on **Tuesday, April 28th**, from 6:45 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., in the Winchester Room at Winchester Town Hall. Sustainable Winchester (the environmental organization behind the Cool Winchester Project) and the Town of Winchester are hosting this session. A representative of the Massachusetts Municipal Association will discuss these topics, lead a slideshow to illustrate hands-on tips, and provide free educational materials for everyone attending. Refreshments provided by Whole Foods. coolwinchester@gmail.com

PARENTING BOOK GROUP

Parent to Parent and the Winchester Public Library is offering a series of four books group discussions focused on a wide range of parenting issues. Our final group discussion of the year will be on April 30, when we will be talking about the profound parenting issues raised in Jodi Picoult's novel about a school shooting, *Nineteen Minutes*. For more information, contact parenttoparentwinchester.org.

LOOKING FOR A SUMMER PROJECT FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS?

The Wright-Locke Farm Conservancy Board (the Town's steward of what many people know as Hamilton Farm and the U-Pick Raspberry Field) has the answer. To honor Winchester's agricultural past and

raise awareness of the importance of preserving the Wright-Locke Farm, the Conservancy is sponsoring a town-wide contest (a Squash-a-Thon!) to see who can grow the heaviest Blue Hubbard squash. This is the squash believed to have been developed in Winchester and stored over the winter months in the Squash House at the Wright-Locke Farm. The rules are simple. Pick up a starter kit for \$2.00, follow the directions, and bring your heaviest squash to the weigh-in at the Farmers' Market on the last Saturday of September. Starter kits—which contain everything you need except water and sunshine—will be available outside the main entrances to the elementary and McCall schools at the close of school on Tuesday, April 28. The kits will also be available at the transfer station on April 25 and May 2 and at Book Ends after mid-April. Questions? WLFarm@comcast.net.

GRIFFIN MUSEUM SUMMER CAMP

The Griffin Museum is excited to offer three workshops for children ages 11 - 14. No photography experience is needed. Arts educator Catherine Nasser will lead the workshops.

****An exhibition of all student art work will go on display at the museum after the workshops are completed.**

Topics/dates:

--Collage/Assemblage (July 6-10)

--Community Portrait (July 13-17)

--Responding to Current Events (July 20-24)

Cost: \$250 MEMBERS / \$325 NONMEMBERS + \$20 Material fee

Class size is limited to 15.

Classes will run from 9 AM to 4 PM on Monday through Friday with a one hour supervised lunch. Students should bring a packed lunch to class every day. Students may take one, two, or all three courses. Students who register for all three will receive a \$50 discount off the total price.

For a more detailed information/registration sheet please visit http://www.griffinmuseum.org/events_programs.htm and scroll down.

LINCLETTER DEADLINES/TYPISTS

Please submit news for the Lincletter, by email, to the typist listed for each deadline by Friday at 2:30 pm. News can also be dropped off in our office mailbox.

Deadline	Publish Date	Typist
4/17	4/29	McAuliffe
5/1	5/6	Barton
Stephanie McAuliffe	781-369-2244	
smcauliffe@fclegal.net		
Shiva Barton	781-721-4707	
shivabarton@verizon.net		